

# *The Smokehouse*

*Where Country Hams Hang Out*

*September 2016*

*President, Larry Brumett, KN4IV*

*Vice President, David Robinson, N4AES*

*Sec/Treas, Chappy Rice, KD4SS*



**ROBERT LEWIS  
"BOB" MCKINNEY  
KD4LHA SK**

Robert Lewis "Bob" McKinney, 62, of Tompkinsville, KY passed away Wednesday, August 17th, at Tristar Centennial Medical Center in Nashville, TN.

Bob was born in Virginia on October 1, 1953, a son of Lawrence McKinney and the late Verba (Campbell) McKinney.

Bob owned and operated Robert McKinney Photography for 40 years in Tompkinsville,

KY. He was also a ham radio operator and member of the Mammoth Cave ARC where he had served as club officer and served on several committees. Bob was of Baptist faith.

On September 22, 1979, he married Janan Crabtree. Bob is survived by his wife, Janan McKinney of Tompkinsville, KY; two daughters, Sarah Groves and husband Kevin, of Grovetown, GA; and Christina Vickery and husband Andy, of Bowling Green, KY; his father, Lawrence McKinney of Goode, Virginia; four grandchildren; Ethan, Noah, Audrey and Lyla.

Funeral Services were held at Tompkinsville First Baptist Church on Saturday, August 20th, 2016 with burial in the Beautiful Home Cemetery.

Bob will be missed by family, friends and the ham community.



## **Three Companies Agree to Plead Guilty for Fixing Prices of Electrolytic Capacitors**

The US Department of Justice announced this week that three companies have agreed to plead guilty for their roles in a conspiracy to fix prices for electrolytic capacitors sold to customers in the US and elsewhere. The companies are Rubycon Corporation, Elna Co Ltd, and Holy Stone Holdings Co Ltd.

“The Antitrust Division has now charged five companies and one individual for their participation in this international price-fixing conspiracy,” Deputy

Assistant Attorney General Brent Snyder of the Justice Department's Antitrust Division, said in an August 23 Justice Department news release. "The electrolytic capacitors conspiracy affected millions of American consumers who use electronic devices containing capacitors every day."

The division filed one-count felony charges against each of the three companies in US District Court in San Francisco. In addition to pleading guilty to the charges against them, each company has agreed to pay a criminal fine and to cooperate with the Division's ongoing investigation. The plea agreements are subject to court approval.

NEC TOKIN Corp and Hitachi Chemical Co Ltd already pleaded guilty earlier to participating in the same worldwide conspiracy. NEC TOKIN was sentenced to pay a \$13.8 million fine in January, while a \$3.8 million fine was levied on Hitachi Chemical in June. In March of 2015, a grand jury indicted Takuro Isawa, a former Global Sales general manager for one of the capacitor manufacturers, for his alleged participation in the conspiracy.

This week's charges resulted from an ongoing federal investigation by the Antitrust Division's San Francisco Office and the FBI's San Francisco Field Office into price fixing, bid rigging, and

other anticompetitive conduct in the capacitor industry. Anyone with information on price fixing, bid rigging or other anticompetitive conduct related to the capacitors industry should contact the Antitrust Division's Citizen Complaint Center, tel (888) 647-3258, or or call the FBI tip line, (415) 553-7400.

The Justice Department released court documents on Elna, Holy Stone, and Rubycon.



### **DX Engineering's Tim Duffy, K3LR: New Fairgrounds Venue "Perfect for Hamvention"**

DX Engineering Chief Operating Officer Tim Duffy, K3LR, says he's enthusiastic about the new Dayton Hamvention® venue at the Greene County Fairgrounds in Xenia, Ohio — both as a vendor and as an individual radio amateur. DX Engineering recently produced a short video tour of the new Hamvention location, which includes an interview with Hamvention spokesperson Mike Kalter, W8CI.

"I can tell you that I have been hearing from all over the world a sigh of relief after [people] see the video we did at the

Fairgrounds," Duffy told ARRL. "The new venue is huge, and it is clean — it will be perfect for Hamvention." Duffy said he likes the Greene County Fairgrounds so much that he thinks that Hamvention will be even better at its new site than it had been for the past 10 years or so at Hara Arena in Trotwood, Ohio.

Duffy, who is also ARRL Western Pennsylvania Section Manager, encouraged the Amateur Radio community to support and encourage Hamvention's sponsor — the Dayton Amateur Radio Association (DARA) as it makes the myriad arrangements for the big show. "This is a very tough job for an all-volunteer staff," he added.

In the approximately 8-minute video, Kalter, who is DARA's treasurer, said he was happy that Duffy, as a Hamvention vendor, could see the new venue firsthand. "We consider this a collaboration," Kalter told Duffy. "We want everybody to be happy."

For his part, Duffy was enthusiastic about the size of the new site. "This place is *so* big!" he said. The Fairgrounds covers more than 100 acres, and Duffy said he checked out every building. He told Kalter that he was impressed to see DARA volunteers showing up at the new Hamvention site every

day as they prepare for their Xenia debut in 2017.

“What I saw here today — I think you’re well on your way,” Duffy told Kalter. “Things are on the right track.”

Kalter expressed the hope that DARA will be able to take Hamvention to “a whole new level” at its new location.



### **Ham Radio Outlet Refurbishes, Reopens Former AES Milwaukee Location**

Ham Radio Outlet (HRO) opened its latest Amateur Radio retail outlet at the site of the former Amateur Electronic Supply (AES) headquarters store at 5710 West Good Hope Road in Milwaukee on August 27. AES closed its Milwaukee, Las Vegas, Cleveland, and Orlando outlets on July 28, following a surprise announcement 4 weeks earlier that it was going out of business after 59 years as a ham radio equipment supplier. A couple of weeks later, HRO announced plans to make over the Milwaukee outlet and reopen it as its “superstore” — now HRO’s largest. Several former AES Milwaukee employees now are working for HRO, which undertook a rapid remodeling project to make the store over in its own brand.

Dan Vanevenhoven, N9LVS, visited the HRO Milwaukee location on opening day, camera in hand, and he posted video of his brief tour on YouTube.

“One of the first things that caught my eye was the radio demo area,” Vanevenhoven says in his video. “They’ve actually got radios that you can try out.” A row of eight carrels, each with a different piece of gear ready to use, stretches along part of one wall in the store.

The Milwaukee store is 5000 square feet of Amateur Radio equipment, antennas, books and accessories.

A family-owned business, HRO is the world’s largest Amateur Radio dealership, with 14 locations from New England to the West Coast. It opened a new outlet in Plano, Texas, in early 2015 and relocated and expanded its Portland, Oregon, store, which opened in late July.

HRO has planned the weekends of September 10, 17, 24 and October 1 for the grand opening of its Portland store, and October 1, 8, 15, and 22 for the grand opening of the new Milwaukee outlet.



### **Jamboree on the Air**

Scouting’s Jamboree on the Air (JOTA) officials are asking JOTA 2016 participants not only to register for this year’s event, but to follow up with a post-JOTA report. As an incentive, all stations filing reports will automatically be entered to win an Icom ID-51A hand-held transceiver. The 59th annual JOTA takes place October 14-16.

“Last year we had 400 stations register but only 200 stations file a report,” said JOTA Coordinator Jim Wilson, K5ND. “We’re going to improve that this year. Icom America and Ray Novak, N9JA, have stepped up to help us with a considerable incentive.”

Wilson pointed out that only BSA stations will be eligible to win. “These prizes are for the station. It’s up to you to determine who gets it or how you share it,” he said. “Of course, everyone who files a report will receive the 2016 Jamboree on the Air Certificate.”

More than 1 million Scouts in 150+ countries — at nearly 18,000 stations — are expected to take part in JOTA 2016, engaging with other Scouts to talk about Amateur Radio and their Scouting experiences. “JOTA is about conversations across town and around the world, rather than about contacts,” Wilson said.

The JOTA reporting system will open right after JOTA weekend; reports are due on November 1, with the prize drawing held that week. “Designate someone on your team to collect the information needed for your report,” Wilson recommended, pointing to a list of “best practices” to ensure a report that “truly captures your event.”

JOTA Guidelines for Amateur Radio Operators are available online. Among other advice, the operating guide points out that US Scouts may speak directly with Scouts in other countries as long as a third-party agreement exists between that country and the US. A Scout station spotting cluster also will be available this year, to show who’s on the air and where. Dave Edwards, KD2E, and Andy O’Brien, K3UK, have developed a Scout scheduling page for teams to post their frequencies.

JOTA stations have been asked to avoid other operating activities taking place over the October 14-16 weekend, including the Worked All Germany contest-free zones. Four state QSO parties also take place over JOTA weekend — Illinois, Iowa, New York, and South Dakota.

Wilson also asked for the cooperation of contesters. “As you participate in these or other contests that weekend, please keep in mind that Scouts will be on the air at the same time,” Wilson advised competitors.

“For most, this will be their first experience with Amateur Radio. Please be courteous and where possible provide some contest free space around their ongoing QSOs near the Scouting frequencies. After all, they are the next generation of ham operators — or not.”

### **Minutes – Aug 16, 2016**

This was our annual August Picnic, held in the clubroom, with 23 members and 10 guests present.

The club provided cooked shoulder, well prepared by Herb KJ4CMG. The July minutes were approved as printed, and the treasurer reported \$8932.42 on hand and \$10,428.25 in savings. Herb mentioned that the shoulder cost \$57.41.

Announcements – The Huntsville hamfest is this coming weekend Aug 20, the Cedars of Lebanon Hamfest will be Saturday August 27, and the Bowling Green “Vette City” hamfest will be October 1. We will be provided a free table.

The Ky Colonels Club annual picnic will be Tuesday Sep 13 at Covington Woods Park in Bowling Green. Lawrence KF4HNF showed a nice climbing harness, missing the lanyard that he is donating to the club.

The repeater committee reported that the antenna is ready for the Bonnieville site, to be installed along with the commercial antennas, which are awaiting some backordered parts and scheduling, of which Bill Kidd will keep us advised.

The special event committee reported that about 300 contacts were made Field Day, of which 100 were CW, and a good time was had by all.

It is hoped that the tower project atop city hall will occur late September or early October, when the weather is cooler. A 1000 foot spool of RG8X was purchased for this project.

The meeting adjourned at 8:05 pm.

### **Club Meeting**

September Club Meeting be on September 20<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm in the clubroom located in the basement of city hall.

### **Monroe County Radio Club Picnic**

Monroe County Radio Group is hosting a picnic at Port Oliver Boat Ramp on September 24<sup>th</sup> all hams and families are invited. For more info contact Eric KK4RJV